This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for providing an output to a display in response to an input signal received from a video source, said output providing means including means for buffering the input signal;

means for decoding an encoded video signal into a decoded video signal; and

means, coupled to said output providing means, for overlaying the decoded video signal decoded by said decoding means onto the display during a transition when said output providing means switches from a first video source to a second video source,

wherein said apparatus comprises a plurality of encoded video signals, said apparatus being capable of selecting a specific encoded video signal for decoding and display during the transition, a subject matter of said specific encoded video signal being based upon relevance of said encoded video ~~signal's relevance~~ signal to either a ~~content's~~ subject matter of content displayed by the first video source prior to the transition or a ~~content's~~ subject matter of content selected for display via the second video source following the transition.

2. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said output providing means comprising a graphics controller and said buffering means comprising video memory.

3. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said decoding means comprising a decoder compliant with an MPEG standard.

4. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said overlaying means comprising a video overlay.

5. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said output providing means comprising a graphics controller, said buffering means comprising video memory, said decoding means comprising a decoder compliant with an MPEG standard, and said overlaying means comprising a video overlay.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said decoding means being capable of receiving the ~~coded~~ encoded video signal via a network.

7. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an alternate means for decoding an encoded video signal into a decoded video signal wherein said overlaying means overlays the decoded video signal of said alternate decoding means during the transition when said decoding means is unavailable during the transition.

8. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said decoding means being capable of decoding an encoded commercial video signal into a decoded commercial video signal such that said overlaying means overlays the decoded commercial video signal during the transition.

9. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, said decoding means being capable of decoding a video signal containing advertisement information into a decoded commercial video signal containing advertisement information such that said overlaying means overlays the decoded video signal containing advertisement information during the transition.

10. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising means for storing an encoded signal such that the encoded signal is available to be decoded by said decoding means upon an occurrence of the transition.

11. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a memory capable of storing an encoded signal such that the encoded signal is available to be decoded by said decoding means upon an occurrence of the transition.

12. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a processor for executing a program of instructions that controls the apparatus, said processor being coupled to said output providing means via a bus.

13. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said apparatus is capable of extending the transition to a predetermined time duration when said output providing means switches from the first video source to the second video source, thereby ensuring that the decoded video signal is capable of being displayed in its entirety.

14. (Original) An apparatus, comprising:

means for providing an output to a display in response to an input signal received from a video source, said output providing means including means for buffering the input signal;

means for decoding an encoded video signal into a decoded video signal; and

means, coupled to said output providing means, for overlaying the decoded video signal decoded by said decoding means onto the display during a transition when said output providing means switches from a first video source to a second video source,

wherein said apparatus is capable of extending the transition to a predetermined time duration when said output providing means switches from the first video source to the second video source, thereby ensuring that the decoded video signal is capable of being displayed in its entirety.

15. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, said output providing means comprising a graphics controller and said buffering means comprising video memory.

16. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, said decoding means comprising a decoder compliant with an MPEG standard.

17. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, said overlaying means comprising a video overlay.

18. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, said output providing means comprising a graphics controller, said buffering means comprising video memory, said decoding means comprising a decoder compliant with an MPEG standard, and said overlaying means comprising a video overlay.

19. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, said decoding means being capable of receiving the coded video signal via a network.

20. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, further comprising an alternate means for decoding an encoded video signal into a decoded video signal wherein said overlaying means overlays the decoded video signal of said alternate decoding means during the transition when said decoding means is unavailable during the transition.

21. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, said decoding means being capable of decoding an encoded commercial video signal into a decoded commercial video signal such that said overlaying means overlays the decoded commercial video signal during the transition.

22. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, said decoding means being capable of decoding a video signal containing advertisement information into a decoded commercial video signal containing advertisement information such that said overlaying means overlays the decoded video signal containing advertisement information during the transition.

23. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, further comprising means for storing an encoded signal such that the encoded signal is available to be decoded by said decoding means upon an occurrence of the transition.

24. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, further comprising a memory capable of storing an encoded signal such that the encoded signal is available to be decoded by said decoding means upon an occurrence of the transition.

25. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, further comprising a processor for executing

a program of instructions that controls the apparatus, said processor being coupled to said output providing means via a bus.

26. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein said apparatus comprises a plurality of encoded video signals, said apparatus being capable of selecting a specific encoded video signal for decoding and display during the transition based upon said encoded video signal's relevance to either a content's subject matter displayed by the first video source prior to the transition or a content's subject matter selected for display via the second video source following the transition.

27. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for providing an output to a display in response to an input signal received from a video source, said output providing means including means for buffering the input signal, said output providing means comprising a graphics controller and said buffering means comprising video memory;

means for decoding an encoded video signal into a decoded video signal;

means for selecting a second decoding means if the decoding means is not available during a transition when said output providing means switches from a first video source to a second video source; and

means, coupled to said output providing means, for overlaying the decoded video signal decoded by one of said decoding means onto the display during [[[a]]] the transition when said output providing means switches from [[[a]]] the first video source to [[[a]]] the second video source.

28. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, said decoding means comprising a decoder compliant with an MPEG standard.

29. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, said overlaying means comprising a video overlay.

30. (Original) The apparatus as claimed in claim 27, said decoding means comprising a decoder compliant with an MPEG standard and said overlaying means comprising a video overlay, wherein video data from the video overlay is provided to the display through the graphics controller.

31. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for providing an output to a display in response to an input signal received from a video source, said output providing means including means for buffering the input signal;

means for decoding an encoded video signal into a decoded video signal;

means for detecting an occurrence of a video transition from a first video source to a second video source by said output providing means;

means for determining, if an occurrence of a video transition from a first video source to a second video source is detected, if a first decoder is available;

means for selecting a second decoder if the first decoder is not available;

means, coupled to said output providing means, for overlaying the decoded video signal decoded by said decoding means onto the display during a video transition when said output providing means switches from a first video source to a second video source; and

a processor for executing a program of instructions that controls the apparatus, said processor being coupled to said output providing means via a bus.

32. (Original) A method performed by a video system for providing information in video transitions, comprising:

selecting a video for transition;

receiving the transition video;

storing the transition video;

detecting an occurrence of a video transition from a first video source to a second video source;

if an occurrence of a video transition from a first video source to a second video source is detected, then determining if a first decoder is available; and

if the first decoder is not available, then selecting a second decoder.

33. (Original) The method of Claim 32, further comprising decoding the transition video by the first decoder if the first decoder is available.

34. (Original) The method of Claim 33, further comprising decoding the transition video by the second decoder if the first decoder is not available.

35. (Original) The method of Claim 34, further comprising overlaying the transition video during the video transition from a first video source to a second video source.

36. (Original) The method of Claim 35, further comprising receiving video from the second video source.

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the subject matter of said specific encoded video signal is related to the subject matter of the content displayed by the first video source.

38. (New) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the subject matter of said specific encoded video signal is related to the subject matter of the content selected for display via the second video source.